

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. Claims 4-5 and 8-13 are withdrawn from consideration. By this amendment, Claim 1 is amended; and no claims are canceled or added herewith. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-3 and 14-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,978,820 to Aoki in view of WO 2004/104357 to Chino and J.P. 7229377 to Mamoru; and Claims 6-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Aoki, Chino, Mamoru and further in view of J.P. 7173979 to Yukihiko.

With respect to the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) those rejections are respectfully traversed. Specifically, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art does not teach or suggest that each of the rising wall portions of the guiding elements includes an inner wall face facing a side of the face of the net and an outer wall face facing opposite side to the inner wall face, and the net-holding member is disposed across the outer and inner wall faces of the rising wall portion of the guiding element while the net-holding member is hung on a tip end of the rising wall portion facing in a rising direction, in which the rising wall portion rises, and is engaged with the guide rail in a manner so as to be movable along the guide rail, as recited in Claim 1.

The Office Action acknowledges on page 3 that Aoki and Chino do not disclose the features with respect to the net holding member. However, the Office Action asserts that Mamoru makes up for this deficiency.

In Mamoru, a net holding member 20 includes an attachment part 21 to engage with the lower part of the net 2. A leg 22 projects from the substrate 23 and includes a piece 29

located in the groove 30. The groove 30 is provided with the slot frame part 4e which makes the C type with the guide wall 4b. As such, the groove 30 guides both ends of the piece 29 in an effort to stop the holding member 20 from rotating upwards but allowing the holding member 20 to move level with leg 22. The features of the claimed invention are not taught or suggested in the applied art. The Office Action asserts on page 7 that it is unclear what defines the outer or inner wall. As such, the Office Action asserts that the top and bottom walls of the grooves can be the outer and inner walls. Applicants assert that Claim 1 is amended to clarify the claimed features and as such, the claimed features are not taught or suggested by Mamoru.

Again, Claim 1 recites in part, that each of the rising wall portions of the guiding elements includes an inner wall face facing a side of the face of the net and an outer wall face facing opposite side to the inner wall face, and the net-holding member is disposed across the outer and inner wall faces of the rising wall portion of the guiding element while the net-holding member is hung on a tip end of the rising wall portion facing in a rising direction, in which the rising wall portion rises, and is engaged with the guide rail in a manner so as to be movable along the guide rail. In accordance with one or more examples of the claimed invention, a net guide can be formed of a straight line like rail-shape in a leading out condition from a frame member, and thereby the movement of the net-holding member that follows the net guide can be caused to be smooth and the sliding screen door is capable of freely opening and closing by horizontal pulling of the net.

The features of the claimed invention are not taught in the applied art and therefore, the applied art cannot provide at least the advantages discussed above. Withdrawal of the rejection to the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

Consequently, for the reasons discussed in detail above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

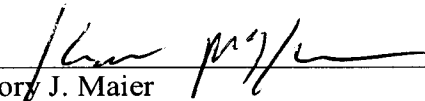
Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 08/07)

1654502\_1.DOC

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gregory J. Maier  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 25,599

Kevin M. McKinley  
Registration No. 43,794